

Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP) Implementation Summary

Funding Agency: Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)

Funding Allocation: \$1,383,070 for up to 3 years Deadline for Application Submission: May 18, 2009

HUD HPRP Guidelines

HPRP Purpose: To provide temporary financial assistance and services to either prevent individuals and families from becoming homeless or help those who are experiencing homelessness to be quickly re-housed and stabilized. The intent is to serve persons who are homeless or would be homeless <u>but for</u> this assistance and can remain stably housed after this temporary assistance ends.

HPRP Target Populations:

- 1. Individuals and families who are currently in housing but are at-risk of becoming homeless and need temporary rent or utility assistance to prevent them from becoming homeless or assistance to move to another unit (prevention)
- 2. Individuals and families who are experiencing homelessness (residing in emergency shelter or transitional housing or on the streets) and need temporary assistance in order to obtain housing and retain it (rapid re-housing)

HPRP Eligibility Criteria:

- Have household income at or below 50 percent of the Area Median Income
- Have an initial consultation with a case manager or other authorized program representative
- Have no appropriate subsequent housing options identified
- Lack the financial resources and support networks needed to obtain immediate housing or remain in existing housing

HPRP Eligible Activities:

- Financial Assistance
- Housing Relocation and Stabilization Services
- Data Collection and Evaluation
- Administrative Costs (5%)

City of Riverside HPRP Implementation Strategy

Funding provided to the City of Riverside under the HPRP grant shall be used to expand the City's existing homeless prevention and rapid re-housing initiative. In 2006, the Riverside City Council allocated funding to establish a Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA) program to help address the need for permanent housing solutions for individuals and families that are homeless or on the verge of homelessness in the

City of Riverside. The City's TBRA initiative provides homeless prevention and rapid rehousing assistance to eligible households including move-in costs and/or short-term rental subsidies coupled with home-based case management to facilitate housing stability. With the addition of the HPRP funding, the TBRA initiative will be expanded based on the following program goals:

- Prevent people living in the City of Riverside from becoming homeless
- Divert people who are seeking shelter into more appropriate housing options
- Help people who become homeless to quickly move into permanent housing

The City currently contracts with the Housing Authority of the County of Riverside (HACR) to operate the TBRA initiative utilizing federal HOME and CDBG funding to implement program strategies modeled upon the nationally recognized "Housing First" best practice model. HACR is uniquely qualified to assist the City with providing low-income households with temporary financial assistance and related housing stabilization services. HACR provides the fiscal and programmatic infrastructure to work with the city to incorporate HPRP funds into an expanded TBRA initiative in a timely and effective manner and to leverage other federal housing assistance programs (Shelter Plus Care, Section 8, etc.) to assist at-risk and homeless households with acheiving housing stability.

The County of Riverside Economic Development Agency is proposing to allocate HPRP funds (\$4.2 million) to HACR in order to expand upon the City's TBRA/Housing First initiative and replicate it countywide. With the addition of the new HPRP funding, the City will work in partnership with HACR to build upon and expand the TBRA/Housing First initiative incorporating new and increased activities based on HPRP eligible activities in the following area:

Financial Assistance

- <u>Flexible Financial Assistance</u> including payment of rental arrears, utility assistance, moving costs, security deposits, and motel/hotel vouchers (only when rental housing has been identified but is not immediately available for move-in)
- <u>Temporary Tenant-Based Rental Assistance</u> to facilitate housing stability for eligible households with short-term (1-3 months) and medium-term (4-18 months) rental subsidies

Housing Relocation and Stabilization

- <u>Community Outreach and Education</u> to promote availability of resources and help identify people in target populations most at-risk
- Homeless Risk/Housing Barrier Screening and Assessment to assess household risk of homelessness, strengths and barriers to stable housing, and prioritize interventions
- Housing Identification and Placement to identify housing opportunities, recruit landlords, help households overcome barriers to placement, assist with rental applications and lease negotiations, and conduct housing quality inspections

- Housing Case Management to facilitate housing stability through transitional support including development of Housing Self-Sufficiency Plans, life skills counseling, maintaining tenant/landlord relations, and supportive service linkage
- <u>Supportive Service Coordination</u> to facilitate linkage to community-based services to support housing stability including employment assistance, mainstream benefits, behavioral health, medical care, and child support services

Data Collection and Evaluation

• <u>Data Collection and Evaluation</u> - to facilitate the collection, reporting and evaluation of performance outcome measurements and linkage to the countywide Homeless Management Information System (HMIS).

Administrative Costs

• <u>Administrative Costs</u> - to account for the use of grant funds, prepare reports for submission to HUD and other costs related to administering the grant

The City will work with HACR and our Riverside Homeless Care Network partners within the local continuum of care to develop a comprehensive plan for the expansion of the TBRA/Housing First initiative which will include specific timeframes, milestones, and performance outcomes for the effective and timely use of HPRP grant funds. The plan will include operating the program from a centralized service location, establishing a well-coordinated community-wide system for accessing HPRP funded assistance and services and creating a uniform process for determining who will receive assistance and what kinds of assistance they will receive. As the plan is developed and implemented, additional subcontractors may be identified to perform specific activities outlined in the plan.

HPRP Estimated Budget Summary			
_	Homelessness Prevention	Rapid Re- housing	Total Amount Budgeted
Financial Assistance	\$345,767	\$318,108	\$663,875
Housing Relocation and	\$331,190	\$331,191	\$622,381
Stabilization Services			
Subtotal	\$676,957	\$649,299	\$1,286,256
(add previous two rows)			
Data Collection and Evaluation			\$27,661
Administration (up to 5% of allocation)			\$69,153
Total HPRP Amount Budgeted			\$1,383,070

For more information, please review the application for Substantial Amendment to the Consolidated Plan 2008 Action Plan for the Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP) posted on this website. For additional information or to provide comment, please contact Don Smith, Project Manager, Housing and Neighborhoods Division, City of Riverside, 3900 Main Street, 2nd Floor, Riverside, CA 92522; (951) 826-5615; dmsmith@riversideca.gov.